



the collegian

GAMEDAYGUIDE

friday, october 19, 2012

K-State VS. West Virginia



4

By the numbers

John Zetmeir
staff writer

0 The number of interceptions thrown by West Virginia quarterback Geno Smith this season

Smith is 195 of 259 passing for 2271 yards and 29 touchdowns thus far. He hasn't thrown an interception since Dec. 1 of last year, when he threw a fourth-quarter pick in a win over South Florida.

2 The number of Heisman Trophy candidates on display in Saturday's contest

WVU's Geno Smith has been a prohibitive favorite to win the award all season. He will be looking to regain some of that Heisman shine after last week's subpar performance at Texas Tech. The stock of K-State's Collin Klein has risen steadily as his Wildcats have continued to pile up wins and move up in the rankings. Smith is currently ranked No. 1 in ESPN's Heisman rankings with Klein coming in at No. 3. This game could go a long way to either man's chances.

16 The number of times West Virginia has gone for it on fourth down

The Mountaineers don't like to punt, and they rarely kick field goals. They are second in the Big 12 in fourth down attempts and have converted 7 of their 16 tries. K-State has stopped opponents from converting on 6 of 11 fourth-down attempts.

20 The number of West Virginia's plays that have gone for 30 or more yards this season

K-State will have to keep this high-powered attack at bay to pull off a win in Morgantown, W.Va., on Saturday. The Wildcats are third in the Big 12 in not allowing big plays. Their opponents have just six plays of 30 or more yards this season.

25 The number of touchdowns thrown by Geno Smith

Smith has jumped into the front of the Heisman talk because of an outstanding start to the season. He does a great job of allowing his receivers to get out into the open field. With Stedman Bailey and Tavon Austin, the Mountaineers are scary on offense, and if there is no pass rush, Smith will add to those numbers.

56 K-State has stopped opponents from scoring red-zone touchdowns 56 percent of the time this season

With the Mountaineers' propensity for moving the ball and for going for it on fourth down, the Mountaineers are likely to get a number of red-zone chances. Keeping them out of the end zone will be paramount. The 56 percent stoppage rate for K-State is third in the Big 12. WVU scores a touchdown on 78 percent of red-zone trips this season.

872 The number of miles from Manhattan to Morgantown, W.Va.

This first meeting between K-State and West Virginia as Big 12 teams will mark the farthest distance that the Wildcats have ever traveled for a conference football game. The Wildcats haven't played the Mountaineers in a football game since back-to-back road games in 1930 and 1931 that the two teams split 1-1.

K-State must control tempo of game



Evert Nelson | Collegian

Senior wide receiver Chris Harper catches the ball on a play against Iowa State in Ames, Iowa, on Oct. 13.

Corbin McGuire
staff writer

Much of K-State's focus on its matchup with offensive juggernaut West Virginia this Saturday is on keeping the Mountaineers out of the end zone. The Wildcats' offense, however, might be just as important

as their defense in doing so.

"We're going to have to control the clock. Kind of play defense with a good offense," said senior fullback Braden Wilson. "That's kind of our game."

Moving the ball on the Mountaineers' defense, which is giving up nearly 500 yards of offense per game, and sustaining

long drives will be key for the Wildcats to keep Heisman hopeful Geno Smith on the sidelines.

Wilson said the Wildcats take a great deal of pride in their physical style of play

PREVIEW | pg. 5

West Virginia, despite loss, is still very dangerous

Mark Kern
sports editor

Before last week's stunning 49-14 loss in Lubbock, the Mountaineers appeared to be legitimate national title contenders. Now everyone is counting them out and saying that they are not a good team. Too many times in sports, media and fans take one game and run with it, whether it is a win or loss. Even with last weekend's terrible performance, make no mistake about it, this team is still scary.

The main reason that they are so scary is because of Heisman front-runner Geno Smith. On the season, Smith has thrown for an absurd 2,271 yards and 25 touchdowns, while not throwing a single interception. While he is not looking to run the ball a whole lot, he is very good at getting out and forcing defenders to get after him, leaving receivers open.

A key against Smith is that you have to get pressure on him. If you let him sit back there and make all his reads, he can down right destroy you, evidenced by his 656-yard, eight-touchdown game against Baylor.

While K-State has a much better defense than Baylor, they must get pressure on Smith, but also make sure they tackle in the open field.

There may not be a more explosive duo in the country than Stedman Bailey and Tavon Austin. While Smith is a great quarterback, his receivers make his numbers look much better. The Mountaineers are at their best when they are hitting Bailey and Austin with short passes, be-



Matt Sunday | The Daily Antheneum
Mountaineers' wide receiver Tavon Austin catches a pass against Baylor in the Mountaineers' 70-63 victory over the Bears on Sept. 29. Austin finished the game with 215 yards receiving and will be a key target for Geno Smith against the Wildcats.

OFFENSE | pg. 5

MATCHING UP



West Virginia rush offense vs. K-State rush defense

With its prolific passing attack, the rushing offense often goes unnoticed for West Virginia. Sophomore Andrew Buie sits right behind Hubert and Klein in the conference rushing ranks in fifth place, averaging 84 yards per game. His season high came against Texas, when he ran for 207 yards on 31 carries with two touchdowns. Expect to see a smaller workload against the Wildcats for Buie.

Although it has gained strength through the season, K-State is weaker in the secondary and Geno Smith is likely to test the unit throughout the game. In a matchup of top-15 teams, strengths will absolutely be maximized and the impact of the West Virginia running game will be lessened because of those factors.

ADVANTAGE: K-State

K-State rush offense vs. West Virginia rush defense

Although West Virginia has been exposed primarily through passing, K-State cannot lose focus of what has been at its offensive core all season. Chewing up clock and keeping senior quarterback Collin Klein and company on the field will be vital.

John Hubert has established himself as one of the conference's finest running backs, holding a 101 yards-per-game average this season. Along with Klein, the duo will need to assist the Wildcats in the overall time of possession. K-State's defense has built itself into a formidable unit, but the best defense will come when West Virginia quarterback Geno Smith finds himself on the sideline. No team has been able to put a hold on the K-State rushing attack yet this season and don't expect that to change this Saturday.

ADVANTAGE: K-State



West Virginia pass offense vs. K-State pass defense

Good luck on finding a way to knock the performances of Geno Smith. The senior has completed well over 70 percent of his passes, thrown 25 touchdown passes and has yet to throw an interception this season.

Smith is coming off of his worst statistical performance of the season, which will provide the Wildcats with an opportunity to slow down the three-year starter.

The senior quarterback would likely be fine even with a suspect receiving corps, but having quite possibly the best receiving duo in the country makes him even more dangerous.

Senior Tavon Austin and junior Stedman Bailey have each cruised past the 700-yard mark through six games and will be counted on heavily in Saturday's matchup. Having Austin as apart of the offense is dangerous enough, but adding him into the return game gives the Mountaineers yet another dimension.

Being able to limit Smith's production will not be an easy task for the Wildcat defense. When pressured, the senior has shown that he can be flustered easily and it'll be important for K-State to exploit that side of Smith.

If Smith stays in the pocket for a majority of the game, it could end the Wildcats' undefeated run quickly. The senior-laden defense of the Wildcats will be counted on heavily to cause a ruckus in the Mountaineer backfield.

ADVANTAGE: West Virginia

K-State pass offense vs. West Virginia pass defense

The Mountaineers' secondary took a beating at the hands of Texas Tech last weekend, and they'll need to respond very quickly. K-State will look to challenge with a firm running game, but with what's been seen in recent weeks, Klein will get a chance to put up some of his best passing numbers.

The Wildcat receiving corps has built itself into one of the deepest units in the conference. Several players have shown an ability to step onto the field and perform when necessary. Led by senior Chris Harper, junior Tramaine Thompson and sophomore Tyler Lockett, the unit will likely be used more than any other point this season.

Klein has shown improved accuracy this season and Saturday will provide him with an opportunity to display those improvements on a big stage. The senior quarterback finds himself in plenty of Heisman conversations. If Klein stands tall after Saturday, expect that conversation to grow to its highest level.

ADVANTAGE: K-State



Special teams

Statistically speaking, K-State holds a wide margin in nearly every special teams category. Not only do the Wildcats hold an edge overall, but the Mountaineers find themselves near the bottom in a number of categories. West Virginia carries the conference's worst punting average and punt return yardage.

Austin, who leads the Big 12 Conference in all-purpose yards, will potentially be a dangerous force in the return game. The senior is averaging 32.7 yards per kick return. With seniors at both kicker and punter, expect the Wildcats to look another direction when taking the field.

Lockett and Thompson are known to be consistent threats every time they take the field. Strong performances in both punt returns and kick returns will be an emphasis for the Wildcats to pull out a victory in Morgantown.

ADVANTAGE: K-State

West Virginia has the makings of a team that could exploit K-State's weaknesses, but these worries should stop sooner rather than later. The Wildcats will force Smith to throw his first two interceptions of the season, giving the Wildcats an edge in a battle that could go down as one of the biggest games in school history.

Adam Suderman
staff writer

FINAL SCORE PREDICTION:

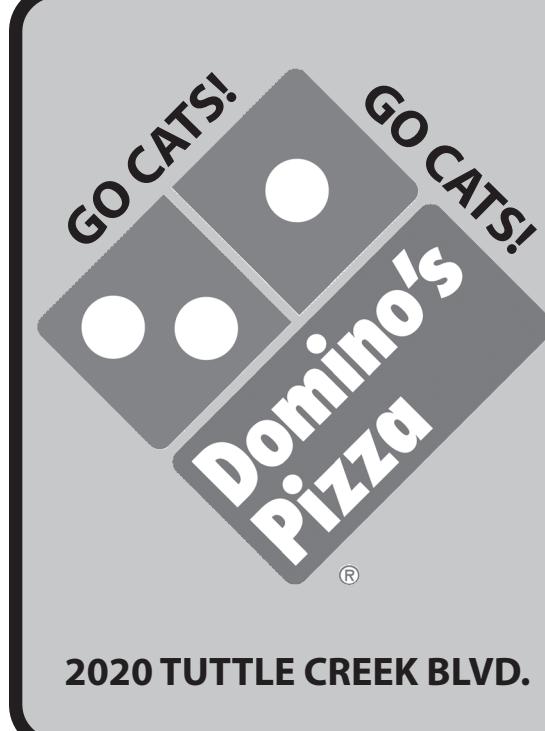
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OREGON	.8993
KANSAS STATE	.8963
NOTRE DAME	.8774
LSU	.7522
SOUTH CAROLINA	.6930
OREGON STATE	.6808
OKLAHOMA	.664
USC	.5959
GEORGIA	.4980
MISSISSIPPI STATE	.4846
WEST VIRGINIA	.4793
FLORIDA STATE	.4277
RUTGERS	.4083
LOUISVILLE	.4061
TEXAS TECH	.3572
TEXAS A&M	.3379
CLEMSON	.3341
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Heisman Trophy watch: freshman enters race

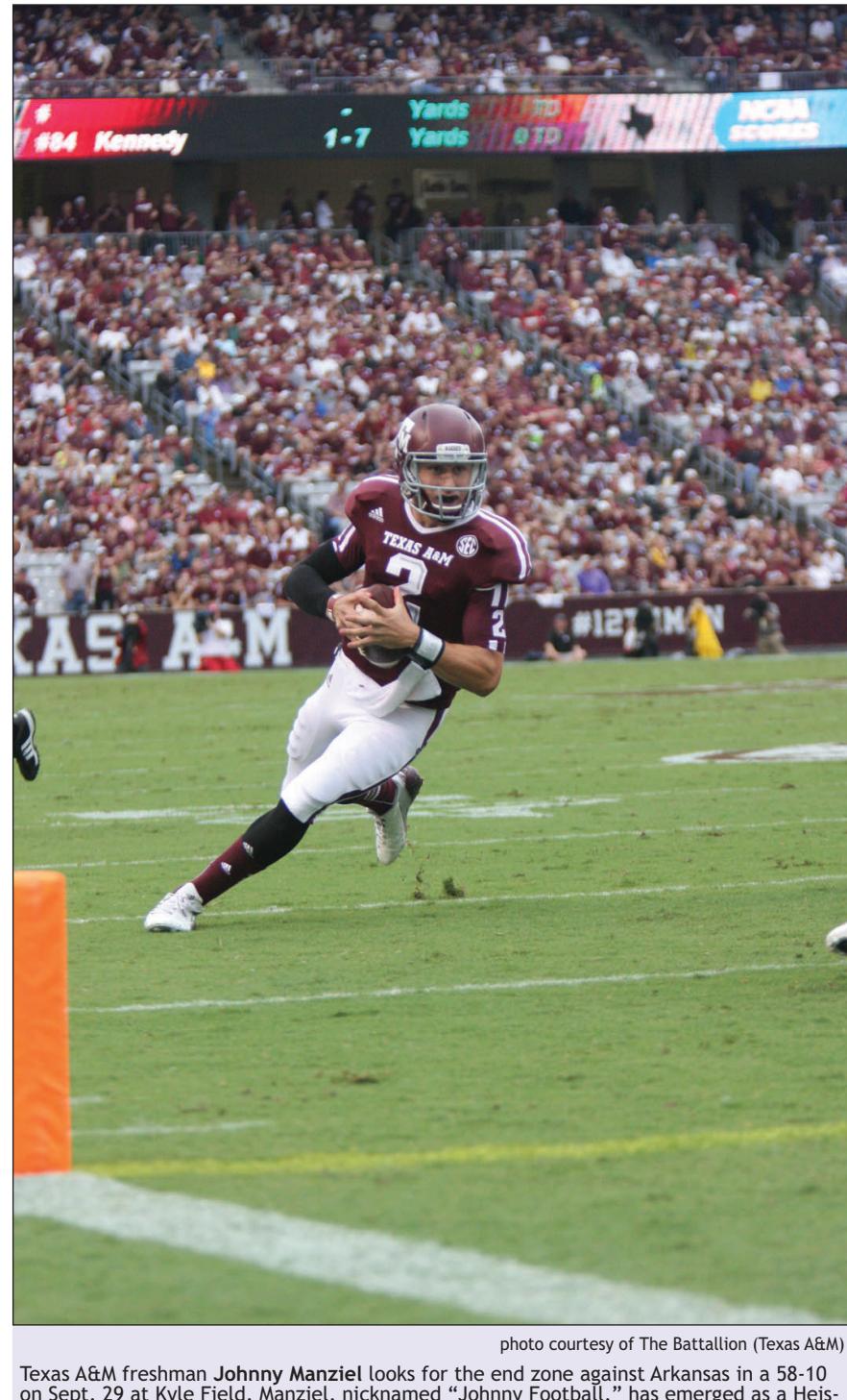


photo courtesy of The Battalion (Texas A&M)
Texas A&M freshman Johnny Manziel looks for the end zone against Arkansas in a 58-10 on Sept. 29 at Kyle Field. Manziel, nicknamed "Johnny Football," has emerged as a Heisman Trophy candidate in guiding the Aggies to a 5-1 start.

John Zetmeir
staff writer

The BCS ranking has been released, meaning that the football season is officially in crunch time. Everyone is getting into the thick of their schedule, and players are beginning to stand out. Through the last few weeks, it has begun to look like a three-man race for the Heisman Trophy.

Still leading the way is West Virginia University's senior quarterback Geno Smith. The numbers that Smith have been putting through his first six games have been out of this world. Despite last week's loss at Texas Tech, where he threw for 275 yards, one touchdown and only completed 52.7 percent of his passes, Smith has clearly won the title of best pocket passer in the nation.

Through six games, the Mountaineers are No. 13 in the nation with a 5-1 record. Smith has completed 75.3 percent of his passes for 2271 yards and 25 touchdowns. However, the stat that has everyone stunned is that he has thrown 259 passes this year, and not one has been intercepted.

Fans do not even have to leave the conference to find the next candidate. K-State's senior quarterback Collin Klein has been everything and more for the Wildcats so far this season. Klein has K-State at 6-0 and No. 4 in the BCS standings. He is not going to kill defenses with a 70-yard touchdown pass or 4.40 sprint speed, he does all the dirty work, and he is very good at it. Even though it has gone down a bit recently,

Klein is still completing 66.9 percent of his passes, which is still nearly 10 percent higher than last season.

It should come to no surprise that fans know him as a running quarterback. With 17 total touchdowns this season, Klein's dual-threat abilities have the Wildcats looking like a serious contender this season.

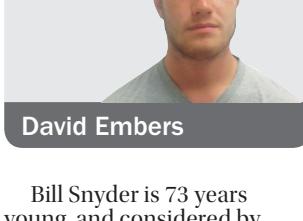
This weekend, Klein will lead K-State to West Virginia to take on Geno Smith and the Mountaineers. The winner of this game should easily become the new front-runner for the trophy.

Even though Ohio State is ineligible to play for a bowl game this season, they are still playing like a championship-caliber team. Sophomore quarterback Braxton Miller is a big reason why. With more than 2,100 yards of total offense and 20 touchdowns, Miller has the Buckeyes looking like one of the best teams in the country.

It is not common to hear the name of a freshman in the Heisman discussion, but Texas A&M quarterback Johnny Manziel is earning every bit of attention he is getting. With 24 total touchdowns and more than 2,300 yards of total offense, Manziel is looking like the best dual-threat quarterback in the nation.

Not once, but twice, Manziel has broken the SEC record for yards in a game. Earning the nickname of "Johnny Football," Manziel has Texas A&M at No. 18 in the country in their first season in the SEC. If he is not the Heisman winner this year, he will surely be leading the discussion when the 2013-14 season rolls around.

In beauty pageant atmosphere, K-State must wait for recognition



David Embers

Bill Snyder is 73 years young, and considered by many as one of the greatest football coaches ever. He is revered across the country as a man of class, dignity and pride. He is the face of K-State football and has been since the Reagan administration.

So how is it that a coach can be so widely respected while his product on the field is so completely ignored? It's a perplexing question that should, hopefully, be addressed this weekend.

With a nation full of doubters watching (not you, Wildcat nation), K-State will travel to Morgantown, W.Va., on Saturday for a battle with the West Virginia Mountaineers. K-State is ranked fourth in the country but is absent from nearly all BCS title talk. A win against WVU on the road could be the decisive factor in legitimizing this team to outside fans and national media.

Even then, I'd be surprised if coach Snyder allows his team to feel satisfied. I don't want to speak for coach Snyder, but judging by all his quotes and his usual persona,

I can assume this: Snyder couldn't care less about the national media's opinion of how good his team is. He knows, the team knows and the fans know. To him, that's all that seems to matter.

While opinions don't matter, the game on Saturday does. Quite simply, in a conference like the Big 12, K-State has no choice but to run the table. An undefeated season is paramount if K-State's goal is to earn a BCS National Championship bid. This somewhat balances out the importance of Saturday's game. Since we have to win them all, making the WVU game more important than any other might end up being counterproductive.

This game is certainly stacking up as the most difficult, but it is just as important as the Miami game, which we could have sleepwalked through. Importance and difficulty have no relation when you are forced to win every game.

On the flip side, a loss would be a huge blow to any national championship talk but would not eliminate the Wildcats from a Big 12 title or a BCS bid. With WVU losing to Texas Tech last week, K-State has a little more wiggle room atop the Big 12 standings.

Now, how about a little rant?

In the present college football system, looking good sometimes becomes more

important than actually being good. This should all change when the playoff format is introduced, but until then, we're stuck in a beauty pageant.

Teams like Oregon can run up the score, show off their cool jerseys and persuade voters to believe they are better than they really are. This ideology doesn't bode well for the Wildcats at all.

The media, and more importantly, the voters, like flash. This team is nearly the opposite of that. Basically, whatever the mass population thinks is cool and hip on the football field, K-State does the exact opposite. Oh, you want tons of passing and glamorous play-calling? How about spread offense and bad defense? Too bad we prefer the "32-belly option keep" with our quarterback following his lead blocker for a 7-yard gain.

K-State's style doesn't follow the present-day norms of college football, due almost entirely to the head coach. But stay tuned, because a win on Saturday would move K-State to 7-0 and into the drivers' seat of the Big 12. An undefeated season, capped off by a Big 12 championship, would surely guarantee K-State a National Championship bid and make this boring, ugly duckling a beauty pageant winner.

David Embers is a sophomore in biology. Please send comments to sports@kstatecollegian.com.

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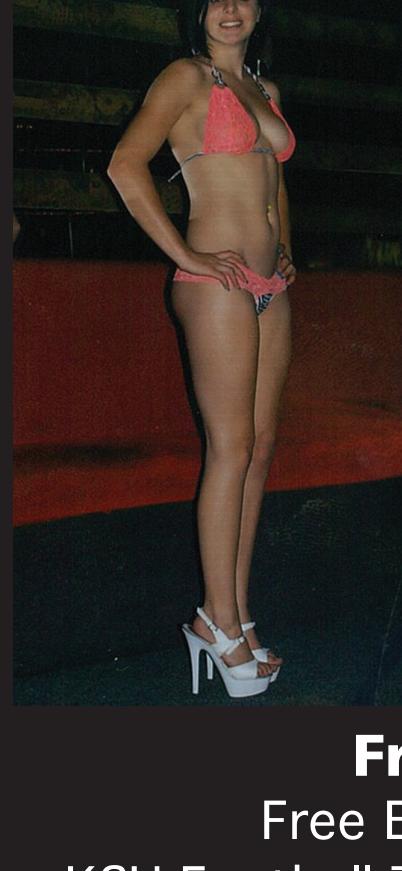


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Wildcats face huge challenge in Mountaineer offense

Nicholas Wahl
staff writer

As the No. 4 K-State football team readies for this weekend's showdown in Morgantown, W.Va. against No. 13 West Virginia, the stakes and challenges will be huge for the Wildcats, and particularly for the defense.

Mountaineers' head coach Dana Holgorsen perfected his craft as an assistant under Mike Leach at Texas Tech and later under Mike Gundy at Oklahoma State. As an offensive coordinator at both stops, Holgorsen has taken his point-a-minute offense to Appalachia, and, outside of last week's 49-14 upset loss to Texas Tech, looks to have his most high-powered offense to date.

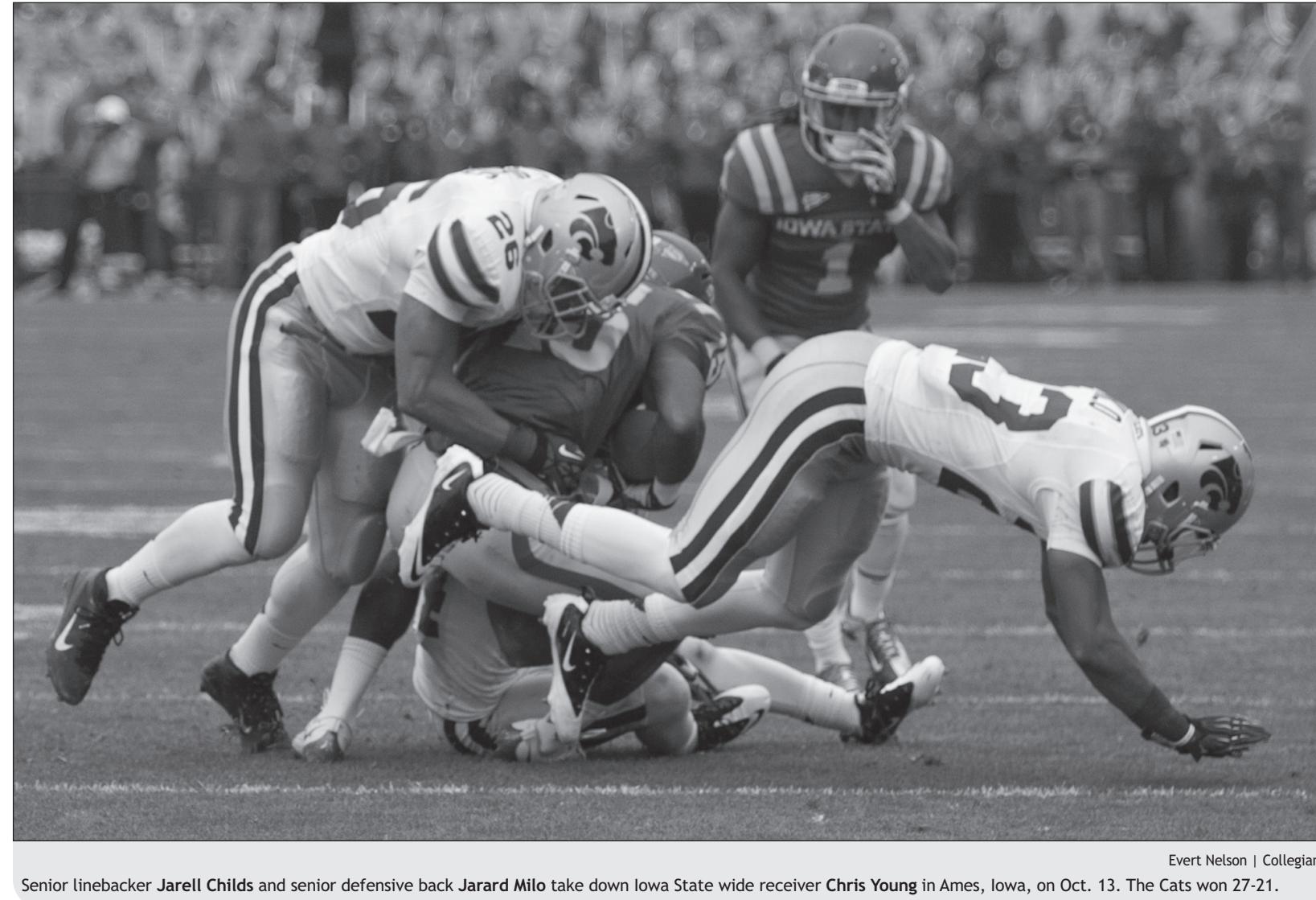
"They have a very talented football team, and it is not just Geno Smith," said K-State head coach Bill Snyder. "They have extremely fine receivers. They have a very talented offense. They have good specialists. They have good return guys who also serve as wide receivers."

The Mountaineers boast the favorite in this year's Heisman Trophy race; quarterback Geno Smith, who has yet to throw an interception this season. Smith has the luxury of throwing to a wide receiver tandem that is as good or better than, and certainly has the speed to match, any in the country in Stedman Bailey—who is listed as day to day—and Tavon Austin.

The offense is anchored by a tough offensive line that averages over 300 pounds across the board, and though the Mountaineers don't run as often as a team like K-State, the running game is just as capable of breaking a big play as the other WVU weapons. This is evidenced by running back Andrew Buies 31-carry, 207-yard performance in a win at Texas two weeks ago.

So how can K-State contain this Mountaineer attack? If you ask Snyder, it starts with eliminating the big plays.

"That is important to us. It is



Senior linebacker Jarell Childs and senior defensive back Jarard Milo take down Iowa State wide receiver Chris Young in Ames, Iowa, on Oct. 13. The Cats won 27-21.

important to any football team,

ball. It is a really good group."

To contain the WVU big-play ability, K-State will have to exhibit sure tackling, especially in one-on-one situations in the open field. They will also have to find a way to get pressure on Smith and disrupt the timing of the passing game. If you look at the Mountaineers last three ballgames in succession, you can see where Baylor and Texas lacked and where Texas Tech was able to

put both of these concepts together to shut down WVU last week.

Baylor chose often to drop eight defenders back in coverage, allowing Smith time to pick the secondary apart to the tune of 70 points. Texas, who did a great job of applying pressure on Smith, was plagued by the same tackling problems they have had all season. Texas Tech, however, was constantly in the backfield,

bringing four or five rushers at all times, keeping the WVU receivers in front of them and making the tackles in the open field.

The blueprint, in reality, should be similar to that of the Oklahoma game, but as the Mountaineers' running game is more of a counter-punch or change of pace from their air attack than Oklahoma's powerful running game, the Wildcats should be less likely to get

sucked into the box and burned by the deep pass.

"The biggest thing is locking down those two receivers and just playing zone coverage against them," said junior linebacker Tre Walker. "It's really about manning down those receivers and making sure you take care of those. If you can knock them out of the play and get pressure on the quarterback, you will be just fine."

Breaking down the game with Charles Davis

Mark Kern
sports editor

K-State and West Virginia square off in one of the biggest games of the weekend on Fox. Charles Davis, of Fox Sports, shared his pregame thoughts with the Collegian in a phone interview Wednesday.

Q. What makes Collin Klein so special at the quarterback position?

A. "His consistency and his belief in himself. He also believes in his coach and just plays so hard on the field. His team buys in to his effort, and they also come out and play equally as hard. I think his talent gets overlooked. When he is running the ball, he does not necessarily look like a natural athlete. He is so good though at using his line to help him find the hole, and he just has a great passion for the game."

Q. What did Texas Tech do so effectively to slow down the Mountaineers offense?

A. "They were able to get pressure and get in

the face of [Geno] Smith, but part of was that he was just not as accurate as he had been throughout the season. In fact, he threw nearly as many incompletions in that game as he had all season.

"You do have to give Texas Tech a lot of credit. When you think of the Red Raiders, you do not think of them having a strong defense, and that was the case early in the year even when they had the number one defense in the country. Then, after the Oklahoma game, everyone said it's the same old defense."

"However, if you look at the game, Texas Tech was devastated by interceptions, one that went for a pick six. That is not a defensive problem, even though it falls on the defense in the box score. The thing they did though was tackle well, something you must do against West Virginia. You can't allow that 10-yard pass turn into 20 or more."

Q. How can West Virginia slow down the K-State rushing attack?

A. "The West Virginia defense is better against the run, but they have not faced a team so determined to run the ball so well. K-State will keep running the ball at you the whole game. If it is not working early, they are still going to bring it. Whether it is Klein or [John] Hubert, they both run the ball hard and get help by their teammates."

"Both the line and receivers do a great job of blocking for them, determined to turn the small runs into bigger runs later in

the game. When you keep tackling a 6-6, 230-pound guy like Klein, eventually you are going to wear out and those runs that were going for 3 yards are now going for 6 or 7. They just put such an emphasis on running the ball."

Q. Where do the two quarterbacks fit in to the Heisman Trophy race?

A. "For me, it is too early to say where they rank, but they are both leading contenders. The thing that is working for both of them, is they are in the perfect system for their talents. Someone asked me who I would rather have, and I said, 'Which offense am I running?' Obviously, Klein isn't going to be great in the West Virginia offense, but Geno would not fit well in the K-State offense. Both of them are in perfect situations, and I can tell you this, you will be watching two of the better quarterbacks in the country."

Kickoff is scheduled for 6 p.m. and Gus Johnson will be on the play-by-play with Davis as the analyst.

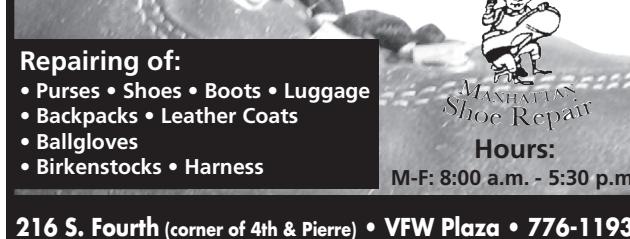


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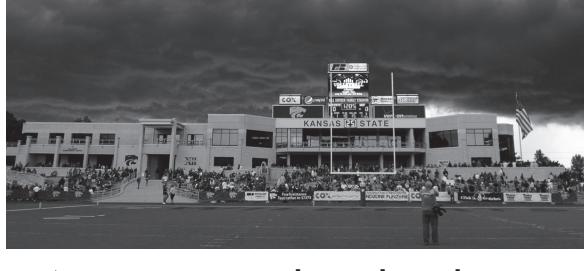
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Week 8 games to watch: Aggies get chance to shine in SEC

Mark Kern
sports editor



NO. 6 LSU AT NO. 20 TEXAS A&M

In their SEC opener, the Aggies squandered a halftime lead against the Florida Gators for their only loss of the season. However, they were starting a freshman quarterback named Johnny Manziel, who now is playing as well as any quarterback in the country.

The redshirt freshman has put up staggering numbers, throwing for 1,680 yards, while rushing for 676 and totaling 24 touchdowns on the season. He has the ability to hurt defenses with both his feet and his arm, and will be put to the test as he goes up against a very good defense in LSU.

LSU, who two weeks ago appeared to be out of the title race, jumped back in after defeating then No. 3 South Carolina 23-21 last week. The Tigers slowed down Heisman trophy candidate running back Marcus Lattimore, holding him

to 35 yards on 13 carries, something no team has been able to do. While the Tigers' offense is not going to wow you with big time numbers, they may have found a diamond in the rough in freshman running back Jeremy Hill.

Hill rushed the ball for 124 yards and 20 touchdowns, including a scintillating 50-yard run that put the game out of reach. Hill is a versatile running back, capable of running with both power and speed, and will be a key in keeping Manziel off the field.

In their opener, Manziel was making his first career start and not playing anywhere near the way he is now. Texas A&M wants to make a statement that they are capable of competing against the SEC's best, and this is the perfect game. Look for Manziel to make huge plays and lead the Aggies to an upset over LSU.



NO. 9 SOUTH CAROLINA AT NO. 3 FLORIDA

For the second time in three weeks, College Gameday will be at a South Carolina game, this time in the Swamp, as the Gamecocks try to get back into the national title conversation.

After a victory two weeks ago over Georgia, South Carolina appeared to be contenders for the national title. However, a loss to LSU last weekend made this game even more important for the Gamecocks.

In their loss to LSU, South Carolina could not get into any kind of offensive rhythm, and allowed the Tigers to control the line of scrimmage. Marcus Lattimore was held in check, and this made things very difficult for quarterback Connor Shaw to find anything down field.

South Carolina does a great job of using the run to help open up the pass. However, that will

be no easy task, as the Gamecocks go up against a great defense in Florida.

The Gators proved how good they can be by defeating LSU 14-6 two weeks ago. In that game, Florida played a smash-mouth type of game, rushing the ball on the final 24 plays of the game. Jeff Driskel and the Gators' passing game has struggled to get going this year, and that doesn't bode well as they go against one of the nastiest pass rushes in the country.

As big of a game as this is for Florida, it's even bigger for South Carolina. A loss knocks them out of an SEC championship opportunity, as well as the national title hunt. That is why I believe that the Gamecocks will come out and play inspired football, and get a tough road victory at the Swamp to get back in the title race.



NO. 18 TEXAS TECH AT TCU

After being hated for an abysmal performance against Oklahoma, Texas Tech quarterback Seth Doege more than redeemed himself, throwing for 499 yards and six touchdowns in the 49-14 victory over West Virginia. As impressive as he was, it was the defensive performance that got a lot of people's attention.

The Red Raiders were able to slow down Geno Smith, something that nobody had been able to do this season. They did a great job of disguising blitzes and leaving Smith confused the entire game. They will be matched up against a team that many had thought left for dead in the TCU Horned Frogs.

After losing quarterback Casey Pachall to suspension, the Horned Frogs were beat at home by Iowa State. However, last week they came out and pulled a shocker in Waco, defeating the Baylor Bears 49-21.

In that game, they intercepted quarterback Nick Florence four times and had him rattled, much like the Red Raiders had done to Smith.

This is a big game for both teams coming off huge victories last weekend. Both have only one loss in the conference, and the winner stays in a good position to battle for the conference title and possibly earn a BCS bowl. In the end, the Texas Tech offense is too explosive, and will score too many points to win a shoot out in Fort Worth.



NO. 12 FLORIDA STATE AT MIAMI

After a defeat by NC State, Florida State looks to bounce back against archrival Miami in a huge game when it comes to the ACC standings.

After Florida State defeated Clemson earlier in the season, they appeared to be in great position to contend for a national title. Now, they are just hoping to stay in first place of the ACC and qualify for a BCS bowl.

The Seminoles put on the field one of the best defenses in the country, but it is their offense that continues to let them down. Against a mediocre NC State team, they were only able to muster 16 points and shot themselves in the foot multiple times. They have a chance to right their ship against Miami, a team they have dom-

inated in recent years.

Miami, after getting hammered in Manhattan on Sept. 8, has responded well, leading the Coastal Division in the ACC. Much of that has been the play of quarterback Stephen Morris, who has started to put up big numbers throwing the ball. Morris currently ranks eighth in the country with 1,991 yards, and has helped the Hurricane offense become more balanced and complement a strong rushing attack led by Duke Johnson.

In the end, the Seminole defense is too strong, and will limit the Hurricanes big play opportunities, letting them win a low-scoring affair.

OFFENSE | Klein learning patience

Continued from page 1

on offense, something head coach Bill Snyder said comes from the team's core values.

"I guess if you get the ball into the end zone, then your offense can look pretty flashy no matter how you get it there," Snyder said. "You know, a mindset of that it is not important of how it gets there, but that it is important that it does."

Snyder said winning the time of possession battle could be a good omen for the Wildcats only if they are keeping the Mountaineers out of the end zone on defense.

"If you keep them out of the end zone and off the field, that is a real positive thing," Snyder said. "I do not want them scoring 7 points a minute either, and they are very capable of doing it."

The Wildcats' patience with moving the ball on offense starts with senior quarterback Collin Klein, whose patience as a runner is continuing to improve.

"I have probably become more patient as I have gotten older and run it more. I know that it is a balance because sometimes you have to wait and feel your way through it, and other times you have got to go," Klein said. "Maybe I might not be as quick as another guy, but I know exactly how it is going to fold out."

The Mountaineers are coming off an embarrassing loss to the Texas Tech Red Raiders in Lubbock, Texas.

Red Raiders' quarterback Seth Doege completed 32 of his 42 passes for 499 yards and six touchdowns against the Mountaineers.

Snyder, however, said they couldn't get caught up in

the specifics of how the Red Raiders pulled off the upset.

"We don't attempt to take things from one game or the next," Snyder said. "We have to view all of the ball games that they have played and find what it is in our system that would fit in our preparation for West Virginia or any other opponent that we play. It's not a matter of taking things."

The hype surrounding the Mountaineers' offense might outweigh the hype that's surrounding the Wildcats, but that doesn't bother senior wide receiver Chris Harper.

"I think it is good. Pressure is how you look at it. You cannot put any more pressure on us than we can ourselves," Harper said. "I have never seen any outside pressure. We put it on ourselves to go out there and put up points."

PREVIEW | K-State looks to stop run

Continued from page 1

cause both of them are electric in the open field. When the Mountaineers do decide to go deep, they will look more for Bailey as he has the game-breaking speed, while Austin is more of an elusive player.

While the Mountaineers are so explosive through the air, they have also shown that they are more than capable of running the ball.

After losing Shawne Alston, it was unknown whether the Mountaineers could run the ball enough to

open up the passing game. However, running back Andrew Buie answered that question when he ran for 207 yards in the 48-45 victory over Texas on Oct. 6. With Buie running the ball, Smith has been able to get the matchups that he wants on the outside.

As much as the Wildcats will need to stop the Mountaineers' passing game, it is even more pivotal that they do not allow Buie and the ground attack to have a big game.

Entering the game, K-State is 17th in the country at stop-

ping the run, allowing 102 yards a game. If they are able to limit the rushing attack, then that will make West Virginia one-dimensional, and allow the Wildcats to get after Smith.

So, even though West Virginia lost last weekend, this is a team that is not to be taken lightly. Very few teams in the country can put up the explosive plays and big numbers that West Virginia can. With all of the criticism and people jumping off the bandwagon after the Lubbock debacle, the Wildcats can expect to get West Virginia's best effort.

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Lockett, Brown shine in 63-51 shootout victory in Morgantown

Nick Davis
staff writer

The No. 4 K-State Wildcats head to Morgantown, W.Va., to take on the No. 13 West Virginia Mountaineers on Saturday. K-State looks to remain the only team in the Big 12 Conference that doesn't have a loss on its record, in both non-conference and conference games.

K-State is in the driver's seat of the Big 12 race and hopes to stay there, while West Virginia is coming off an embarrassing 49-14 loss at the hands of Texas Tech. Will K-State continue building momentum and add another win on the road against a top-15 program, or will West Virginia rise to the occasion and avenge the blowout last week in Lubbock, Texas? Let's see what happens in our fourth installment of the "NCAA Football 13" video game simulation.

1st Quarter
K-State wins the toss and chooses to defer. K-State holds off the Mountaineers on their opening drive as defensive end Adam Davis sacks quarterback Geno Smith on third down and six, forcing a West Virginia punt. On K-State's opening possession, the Wildcats convert a big third-down play with a 22-yard strike from Collin Klein to Tramaine Thompson, setting up a 10-yard touchdown pass from Klein to Chris Harper, to give the Wildcats an early 7-0 lead.

A nice West Virginia drive ends after Arthur Brown forces a fumble. K-State scores on the ensuing drive with a 5-yard scamper by John Hubert, giving the Wildcats a comfortable 14-0 lead.

2nd Quarter
The Mountaineer offense finally gets on the scoreboard with a Andrew Buie 1-yard touchdown run, trimming the Wildcat lead to 14-7. This is when the fireworks start. As has been the case, the K-State special teams unit comes up huge on the ensuing kickoff as Tyler Lockett breaks off a 97-yard kickoff return for a touchdown, putting the Wildcats up 21-7.

Not to be outdone, Tavon Austin of the Mountaineers brings back the very next kickoff with 96 yards to the house to cut the deficit to 21-14 and get the home crowd back in the game. After a missed field goal by Anthony Cantele, the Mountaineers drive down the field and cut the deficit to 21-17 on a 27-yard field goal. The teams trade touchdowns to close out the half, with it being anyone's game at 28-24, K-State, at the half.

3rd Quarter
Pat Miller intercepts a Klein pass on K-State's second-half opening drive, and the Mountaineers capitalize to take their first lead of the game at 31-28. The lead was short-lived as Lockett once again brings back the kickoff for a touchdown, this time a 96-yard, to give K-State back the lead at 35-31.



courtesy photo

4th Quarter

Back-to-back touchdowns for Hubert pushes the game out of reach at 63-37, and West Virginia scores two late touchdowns to make the final margin 63-51.

Player of the Game

Tyler Lockett, 338 all-purpose yards (209 kick return yards with two touchdowns,

51 receiving yards, and 78 punt-return yards).

Play of the Game

Tyler Lockett's second quarter 97-yard kick return for a touchdown. He came through big for K-State, and stole the momentum from the Mountaineers.

Willie's Pushups: 315 total

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